

2007

Annual Report

Governor's Office for Children, Youth & Families



Creating a brighter future for Arizona by providing resources, promoting citizen engagement, and leading innovative projects to strengthen and

empower

families and

communities.



This report is designed to review and highlight the progress and achievements of the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF) during 2007. GOCYF includes the Divisions for Children, Women, Substance Abuse Policy, Community and Youth Development and School Readiness. Community Relations staff and the Division for Finance and Administration work collaboratively with each division.

GOCYF is responsible for the management of numerous federal grants which are awarded to the state through the Governor's Office. In 2007 GOCYF processed 1,416 reimbursements to 771 subgrantees. The office awarded over \$14M to benefit communities and programs statewide. Grant awards positively impact a wide range of issues spanning from substance abuse prevention to child welfare and positive youth development.

In coordination with grant-related activities, GOCYF also works to engage Arizonans from all parts of the state on more than 20 boards and commissions. In total, more than 500 community members contribute time and abilities to participate on one or more of these advisory bodies. Each board and commission focuses on a specific topic area related to GOCYF activities.

To promote awareness of the work done in this Office, GOCYF hosts a variety of conferences and special events each year. These events are effective in garnering support for initiatives and building innovative partnerships among outside agencies and organizations.

The Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families remains committed to identifying strategic approaches and innovative practices to improve outcomes for all Arizonans. These efforts are all part of Governor Napolitano's vision of a safe, strong and prosperous Arizona.

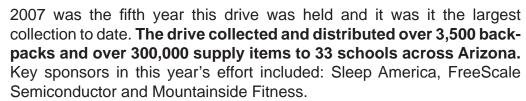


Irene Jacobs, Executive Director David Barnhouse, Deputy Director Janet Garcia, Deputy Director

The Executive Office oversees the work of all GOCYF divisions and houses the Governor's Children's Cabinet, Governor's Foundation Roundtable and Victims' Rights. Several signature events are also organized through this division each year.

Pack to School

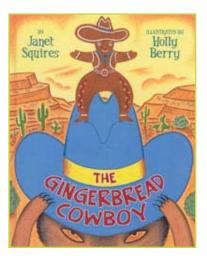
Pack to School is a collaborative effort with the Salvation Army to provide children in need with backpacks and school supplies. Endorsed by GOCYF, the drive collects supplies from donation drop-boxes in the offices of more than 20 state agencies. These agencies generate approximately one-third of all the program's supplies, with the Department of Corrections topping the list of donors.



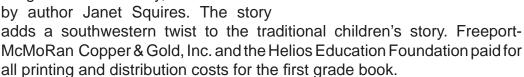


Governor's Book Program

2007 marks the fifth consecutive year that Governor Janet Napolitano upheld her commitment to give every first grade student in Arizona a book. The Governor's literacy program began giving a book to every Arizona first grader in 2003 and expanded to include a book for each fourth grader in the state in 2005. Since this program began, over 725,000 books have been delivered to first and fourth graders in Arizona.



The 2007 first grade book, The Gingerbread Cowboy, was written by author Janet Squires. The story



The fourth grade book, Grand Canyon: Exploring a Natural Wonder, describes one of the wonders of the world in exquisite detail. This book is written and illustrated by Wendell Minor. HSBC – North America, McDonald's and Arizona Public Service paid for all costs associated with printing and distributing this book.



Governor's Children's Cabinet

The Governor's Children's Cabinet works to remove barriers to success by focusing attention and resources on problems facing Arizona's children, families and communities, and by coordinating policies and service delivery systems. This group is comprised of the directors of Arizona's child-serving state agencies as well as key Governor's policy advisors. In 2007, in an effort to widen the scope of the Cabinet and further community connections, the Children's Cabinet expanded membership by inviting the Director of the Arizona Department of Commerce and the Chair of the Early Childhood Development and Health Board to serve as members.

In June 2007, the Children's Cabinet released "Arizona's Results for Children and Youth," which highlights innovative initiatives underway within state government and begins to track progress toward improving outcomes for children and youth in Arizona. This report highlights 50 key indicators of child well-being, specific to Arizona, organized under the categories of health, education and safety. By taking into account the many characteristics that make Arizona unique, this report provides a clear picture of where we are now, where we have been and where we should be. The Children's Cabinet will revisit these indicators on a regular basis in an effort to track progress.

Governor's Foundation Roundtable

Building and maintaining strong public-private partnerships has always been a priority for GOCYF. These relationships help us as we work to leverage existing philanthropic and governmental assets, maximize collective resources and deliver better programs and services. In an effort to foster the relationship between government and philanthropy, the Governor's Foundation Roundtable meets twice each year to provide a forum to discuss policy issues that impact both the state and private philanthropy. Each Foundation Roundtable meeting is attended by approximately 40 philanthropic organizations.

The January 2007 Foundation Roundtable discussed the role that philanthropy plays in education. The outcome of this meeting was that a group of philanthropic leaders have committed to funding a marketing campaign to promote awareness of what must be done to improve education in Arizona. This campaign will involve the collaborative efforts of educators, policy makers and philanthropists and is currently in the planning and research stage.

The second meeting, held in September, centered on youth development and featured a presentation of the Five Keys to Youth Success: Unlocking the Door to Arizona's Future, a report out of the Governor's Division for Community and Youth Development that is a framework for successful youth development. The presentation included an exchange of ideas on how the elements of the plan can be implemented, and featured a panel comprised of foundation representatives, representatives from institutions of higher education and two members of the Governor's Youth Commission, who provided a unique youth perspective.

Victims' Rights

Governor Napolitano is a long-time advocate for victims' rights and for improving the services available to crime victims. The Governor and her administration strongly support efforts to promote awareness of victims' rights and are committed to assisting crime victims and their loved ones. To help facilitate these measures, the Governor has an appointed Adviser for Victims who serves as a community liaison and public advocate.

In 2007, the Governors Adviser for Victims worked on several successful pieces of Victims legislation including; Laws 2007, Chapter 140 Prisoners; restitution payments, which directs the Director of the Arizona Department of Corrections to withdraw a minimum of 20 percent, up to a maximum of 50 percent, from prisoner's spendable accounts, trust funds or retention accounts each month for restitution, if the prisoner has been ordered by the court to pay restitution; and Laws 2007, Chapter 204 Victims' rights; free police reports, which extends a victim's rights regarding permission to take employment leave to obtain a protective order or attend a hearing for one. This also requires law enforcement to provide written notice to victims of crime that free copies of police reports are available upon request.



In addition to the passage of this legislation, the Governor held a Victims' Rights Week kick-off celebration at the State Capitol in April, which featured the Governor and Attorney General Terry Goddard. Close to 200 people attended this event which honors victims and promotes awareness of victims' rights. At this event Governor Napolitano presented Ms. Hilary Griffith, Miss Arizona 2006, with the Triumph over Tragedy Award. Ms. Griffith is a sexual assault survivor who used sexual assault awareness as her platform in the Miss USA and Miss Arizona competitions.

Inance and Administration

Mary Jackson, Director

The Division of Finance and Administration serves as the internal fiscal team for GOCYF, maintaining responsibility for the financial oversight and administration issues that involve all of the divisions. This division oversees incoming grant funds, authorizes reimbursement payments to GOCYF sub grantees, provides technical assistance to establish and document allowable costs, and performs fiscal monitoring of sub grantee organizations. Further responsibilities include procurement, development and maintenance of a grants management database, and processing accounts payable.



Janet Garcia, Director

The Division for Children promotes and advances the strength and well being of Arizona's children and families through administration of federal juvenile justice grants and policy regarding juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, intervention and juvenile accountability.

Boards

Workgroup on Teen Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention

In 2007, the Division for Children continued to coordinate the interagency Workgroup on Teen Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention. State agency partners in this collaborative group include the Department of Economic Security, the Department of Health Services, the Department of Education, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System and the Department of Juvenile Corrections. The primary focus of the group throughout 2007 was to facilitate the implementation of a reproductive health care education program for youth in state care and/or under the supervision of state or local jurisdictions.

To align with this focus area, the Workgroup hosted a one-day conference, Improving Reproductive Outcomes for Youth in Care, in May 2007. Over 60 state and local officials attended this event which included presentations from nationally recognized researchers. A discussion was initiated regarding the possibilities and challenges of implementation of training and educational programs for staff and youth in care, relating to reproductive outcomes.

As a result of the conference, and ongoing discussions at Workgroup meetings, the Teen Outreach Program, a research-based curriculum to help youth avoid unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections, will begin as a pilot project with youth on probation in Maricopa and Gila counties in January 2008. The program involves partnerships with the respective county health and probation departments. Following the introduction of the pilot program, health departments in 11 additional counties will be given funding to expand this program to their youth on probation.

Vision for Youth Task Force

In partnership with the Division for Community and Youth Development, the Division for Children coordinates the Vision for Youth Task Force, Arizona's implementation group for the National Shared Youth Vision Initiative. The overall goal of this national initiative is to improve workforce outcomes for the nations 'neediest youth,' including dependent, delinquent, homeless, disabled and native youth.

In 2007, Arizona applied and was selected by the national partnership behind this program to serve as a pilot state for program implementation. Arizona's project, Partners Assuring Youth Success, began in July 2007 and strives to demonstrate the efficacy of youth-adult relationships. The goal was to promote higher educations and successful entry into the workforce for youth currently in foster care or those transitioning into or out of foster care. Youth formerly in foster care were called upon to help train adult staff members. Deliverables for the project include a replication guide and informational video.

Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission

The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission provides leadership to communities statewide to develop and maintain a coordinated, best practice approach to juvenile justice prevention, intervention and public safety. The Commission oversees the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG). To ensure compliance with the requirements of the program, Division staff conducted a concentrated training course on the requirements of the JJDPA for 60 law enforcement officials from across the state in March. In October, during a federal site visit, Arizona was found to be in full compliance with the Four Core Requirements of the JJDPA by the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

The JJDPA is due for congressional re-authorization in FY 08. To help convey the importance of this Act to Arizona, the Commission vice-chair and the director for the Division for Children had the opportunity to testify before Congress. In July, Commission Vice-chair Derrick Johnson testified regarding the importance of the JJDPA in providing leadership in appropriate treatment of youth at-risk of or involved in juvenile justice delinquency, and in September, Division Director Janet Garcia testified to address the link between child maltreatment and later involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Children's Justice Task Force

The Children's Justice Task Force is a federally mandated entity which meets quarterly to address policy and practice issues related to child abuse. In 2007 the Task Force oversaw implementation of the Children's Justice Act, a federal program that works to improve the investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child victims.

To complement the work of the Children's Justice Act, the Division for Children coordinates basic training on techniques related to child abuse investigation and prosecution called Basic Child Abuse Forensic Interview Training for Law Enforcement and Child Protective Service Personnel. In 2007, 23 training sessions were held and 690 participants received eight hours of intensive training in forensic interviewing.

Grants

Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act

This grant funds the creation of programs that will support the core requirements of the JJDP Act, and addresses challenges to the juvenile justice system. Fourteen new delinquency prevention and alternative-to-detention programs were funded across the state in 2007 for a total of \$1,156,924. Over the course of the year, 3,687 youth and their families were served by programs funded through the JJDP program.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grants

These grants provide states and local units of government with funds to encourage the development of juvenile justice policies and procedures, and programs that promote juvenile accountability for criminal behavior. In 2007, 13 local jurisdictions were funded through the JABG in total funds of \$658,720. This grant funds programs that directly served 1,180 youth in 2007. (Much of the JABG funding was also distributed to local entities to be utilized for infrastructure development such as facility construction and improvement, which is not incorporated into the total number of youth served).

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Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities

This grant program from the United States Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, supports programs that effectively prevent violence in and around schools, prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs, work to keep parents and communities involved and are coordinated with related federal, state, school and community efforts to foster safe and drug-free learning environments. In 2007 10 local programs were funded in a total amount of \$1,406,563 for the purpose of reducing drug use and violence in youth across Arizona. Funded programs provided services in 22 schools to a total of 2,284 elementary and middle school students.

Children's Justice Act Grant

This grant promotes proper handling of child abuse cases, particularly cases of child abuse and exploitation, to limit additional trauma to the child. Ten grants were awarded with Children's Justice Act funding in 2007. Programs in nine counties received a total of \$169,905 to provide training and coordination of child abuse investigation and prosecution. In addition, two non-profit child advocacy centers in Phoenix and Flagstaff used funding to successfully implement automated data systems that will allow the tracking and comparison of data over time and across sites. Two additional sites will receive assistance to implement similar programs in 2008.

Initiatives

Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice Integration Initiative

The Division for Children, in partnership with the Juvenile Justice Commission, worked to identify and implement strategies to increase the effectiveness of interagency cooperation through the Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice Integration Initiative. Throughout the year, several accomplishments helped this collaborative effort move forward.

In January, 2007 the Letter of Agreement Supporting Dually Adjudicated Youth and their Families in Arizona was signed by directors of the departments of Health Services, Economic Security and Juvenile Corrections, as well as Judge Robert Brutinel, the Chairman of the Committee on Juvenile Courts. This document and the accompanying Framework for Interagency Practice Protocol provide a foundation and guiding principles for the work of the initiative.

A set of four desired outcomes and strategies were developed and organized into a Systems Integration Map. Action steps and timelines are being finalized in the Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice Integration Blueprint which will be published in early 2008.

In addition, the Division coordinated an Information Sharing Committee made up of legal representatives and staff from the Departments of Economic Security, Health, Juvenile Corrections and the Attorney General's Office. This Committee has researched statute and developed content and format for a handbook to be published and utilized by practitioners working with children and families. The handbook is in final editing stages and will be published in early 2008.

Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program

The Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program is a partnership between GOCYF and the Arizona Republic Charities and its funding partners. The goal of this program is to raise funds for primary child abuse prevention — stopping child abuse before it occurs. Of the \$25 specialty license plate purchase price, \$17 goes directly to primary prevention efforts.



In addition, the Arizona Republic Charities and funding partners provide a match of 50 cents on every dollar. In 2007, 34,480 plates were sold, resulting in \$586,155 to be distributed to agencies statewide.



Tammy Paz-Combs, Director

The Division for Community and Youth Development manages and distributes funding, and works to support issues relating to national service programs, service-learning, volunteerism, positive youth development and youth workforce development throughout Arizona.

Boards

Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism

This commission makes policy recommendations to the Governor for community service and volunteer-related issues. The Commission also funds and oversees the administration of the Arizona AmeriCorps and service-learning programs. In 2007, Governor Napolitano signed Executive Order 2007-20, which continues the operation of the Commission through June 2017. In addition, the Commission welcomed nine new members in October.

Governor's Youth Commission (GYC)

This body is comprised of high school students from across Arizona who come together to provide a youth perspective and take a stand against some tough issues. Over the years, the GYC's



responsibilities have expanded to include such areas as volunteerism, service-learning, bullying prevention, leadership and civic engagement. In 2007 the focal point was substance abuse prevention, specifically underage drinking.

Over the course of the year, the GYC administered a \$40,000 underage drinking prevention grant, hosted focus groups and workshops to measure adult attitudes about youth alcohol consumption and held two underage drinking summits which impacted over 2,000 Arizona youth. Data collected was used in the Underage Drinking in Arizona Data Findings 2007 Report, and aided in the development of Draw the Line, a statewide underage

drinking prevention campaign. Commissioners also successfully hosted the first Youth Leadership Day, an opportunity for municipal youth councils to gather at the State Capitol to learn more about the public policy-making process and available leadership opportunities and to meet with legislators and other elected officials.

Arizona Statewide Youth Development Task Force

This task force was created by Governor Napolitano in 2004 and charged with creating a comprehensive framework for youth development, to support the positive development of youth and the successful transition into adulthood. On September 10, 2007, the Task Force released Arizona's first comprehensive framework for youth development: the Five Keys to Youth Success: Unlocking the Door to Arizona's Future. More than 120 highly experienced youth and adults contributed to the creation of this plan.

Grants

AmeriCorps* State Formula and Competitive Programs

This year, the Commission on Service and Volunteerism initiated partnerships to secure the broadcast of AmeriCorps recruitment public service announcements on four media networks statewide. In addition, the Commission awarded a total \$1,641,814 to eight community organizations to operate AmeriCorps programs, and will leverage an additional \$1,255,011 in in-kind and cash match donations from those organizations which include:

Arts for All, Inc., Tucson (\$180,705) -

Fourteen members worked to make the arts accessible to children and to adults with disabilities. Members also recruited 39 volunteers that have served a combined total of 760 hours assisting with the production of afterschool and summer courses.

Coconino Rural Environment Corps, Flagstaff (\$256,219) -

Thirty-five AmeriCorps members worked to reduce hazardous forest fuel levels across 370 acres in the Flagstaff area. In addition, 500 volunteers were recruited to serve a total of 1,500 hours.

Northern Arizona University, Youth in Action AmeriCorps, Flagstaff (\$315,466) -

Forty-two AmeriCorps members provided tutoring and mentoring services, community improvement, public safety and environmental services and served 29 community-based organizations in the Flagstaff area. Additionally, 888 volunteers have been recruited and have served 29,791 volunteer hours.

Pima Community College, Adult and Family Literacy Corps, Tucson (\$191,534) -

Seventeen AmeriCorps members have engaged 281 parents with low literacy skills in tutoring and educational events to help build their children's literacy skills. In addition, 109 volunteers have served in 32 needs-based projects, contributing 659 hours.

Pima Prevention Partnership, the Partnership AmeriCorps (\$147,595) -

Twenty-four AmeriCorps members worked to establish an internship program for Pima Partnership High School, completed 10 volunteer projects and recruited 95 volunteers that have served 190 volunteer hours.

Town of Guadalupe, Guadalupe YAPP AmeriCorps, Guadalupe (\$180,363) -

Thirty-six AmeriCorps members worked to construct 24 energy-efficient homes for qualified low-income families and provided afterschool and summer tutoring programs for youth. The 138 volunteers recruited for community volunteer projects and served over 618 hours.

University of Arizona, Bringing Service Home AmeriCorps, Tucson (\$123,942) -

Twenty AmeriCorps members served at 11 community-based organizations that provide for environmental, educational, health and nutritional needs. The program recruited 606 volunteers that served 7,248 volunteer hours.

Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona, Youth Now! Collaboration, Tucson (\$245,992) -

Twenty-three AmeriCorps members operated the Center's Youth Volunteer Corps, engaging 657 youth in 5,347 hours of service to help meet community needs in Arizona; 112 youth and adult volunteers provided tutoring and homework help to 637 children; 1,527 teens have participated in presentations on community service; and 36 youth received leadership and philanthropy and board training.

Arizona Civil Rights Project (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service)

The Commission on Service and Volunteerism provided a total of \$54,000 in pass-through aid to organizations to support community volunteer projects promoting the life and teachings of Dr. King. Across Arizona, the Arizona Civil Rights Project, which involves juvenile probationers, worked with 38 community-based organizations to sponsor community volunteer projects that engaged 2,707 volunteers in 12,274 hours of service in honor of Dr. King. Additionally, the Commission secured corporate sponsorship for the production and broadcast of a public service announcement that aired in the Tucson and Phoenix areas, and also leveraged \$230,000 in state and local match funds.

Arizona Positive Youth Development Initiative

The Division was awarded \$300,000 through the Arizona Positive Youth Development Initiative to partner with a local community to demonstrate positive youth development in a local setting. Arizona is one of only nine states in the nation to receive this funding. The purpose of this demonstration project is to effectively increase the number and array of positive development opportunities available to young people, particularly in the areas of constructive use of time, positive self-expression and civic engagement. Over 100 youth ages 10 to 21 participate in these efforts, along with their family members.

Youth Works Arizona

The Youth Works Arizona Grant Program is a youth workforce development program targeted to youth ages 14 to 21 who have dropped out of school. In 2007 the grant funded three programs: Goodwill Industries of Central Arizona - Youth Bridges, Child and Family Resources – Maricopa Center for Adolescent Parents (MCAP) and Las Artes; all of which focused on high school diploma or G.E.D. attainment, `preparation for postsecondary education or advanced training and placement in employment opportunities. Over the duration of the grant cycle, 232 youth were served, over 123 attained a GED or high school diploma, and the majority of those served entered employment. Additionally, MCAP, who assists pregnant and parenting teen mothers, provided child care to 86 children, of which 86 percent enrolled exited at the developmentally appropriate level.

Alcohol Retailer Mapping in Proximity to Youth (ARMPY)

With the goal of determining whether alcohol retailers are placed safely among our community's youth, a \$5,000 mini-grant was awarded to Our Family Services through the ARMPY project. The awarded funds were used by the agency to determine the number of alcohol retailers in proximity to youth attractions in targeted neighborhoods in Tucson, Marana, Vail and Douglas. The data collected by Our Family Services is to be included in the statewide Underage Drinking report, and will benefit state agencies and coalition members in addressing underage drinking problems in their respective communities.

Child Care & Development Fund

The Division administers funds from the Child Care and Developmental Block Grant (through the Department of Economic Security) to provide training and technical assistance for before and after school child care providers. In 2007, two organizations received funding to provide affordable, high-quality childcare programs.

The Association for Supportive Child Care was awarded \$50,500 to fund the Phone Friend program, a statewide, bilingual "warm line" for school age children who are home alone after school. Staff and trained volunteers answer calls from children and youth on weekday afternoons, offering to play games, read stories, help with homework or simply chat about any concerns the caller might have. From January 2007 through November 2007, 15,093 calls were received through Phone Friend and 38,335 youth received direct services from the program.

The *Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence* was awarded \$137,500 for its work to improve access to quality out-of-school learning opportunities for Arizona children and youth through professional development, advocacy and community capacity building. In 2007, the Center expanded outreach efforts to create two new coalitions in Mohave and Yavapai counties, increased membership by 80 percent and engaged new organizations as partners. The Center also facilitated Afterschool 101: An Orientation Toolkit for afterschool program directors responsible for training staff. Participants gained resources and tools needed to train new employees on the requirements, national standards and programming components of high-quality afterschool programs. There were 38 participants trained on the toolkit, supervising 1,792 employees, serving 26,510 children. Following training, 97 percent of participants indicated they felt prepared to perform job requirements related to caring for children and youth during out of school time.

Initiatives

National Mentoring Month

The Governor's Mentoring Celebration was hosted by the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism to recognize the impact of mentoring on the state. Festivities included a recognition event for outstanding mentors across the state, a public mentoring event called Mentors at the Movies with special guest Phoenix star Amare Stoudemire and a recruitment fair at the State Capitol. Over 400 people from across the state participated in these events which successfully generated support for and recognition of mentoring.



Read Across America/Arizona

The annual Read Across America - Covering All the Bases event at Hamilton Elementary School was held on March 2, 2007. This event brought together 650 Students and 49 volunteers to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Read Across America Day and the 50th Birthday of Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat! Nearly 100 volunteer hours were donated by event attendees. Partnering groups included the Arizona Diamondbacks, Arthur M. Hamilton Elementary School, Assistance League of Phoenix, Camp Fire, Committed to Murphy's Youth, First Book and Phoenix Rotary 100. First Book donated a total of 675 books to students and each student was given two tickets to a baseball game from the Diamondbacks.

Youth Leadership Day

Youth Leadership Day was hosted by the Governor's Youth Commission and held at the State Capitol. Sponsored by SRP and Wells Fargo, the goal of the event is to promote education and awareness of the public policy process through a variety of workshops and speakers. Nearly 300 youth from 26 different municipal youth councils from across the state attended. Participants had the opportunity to speak with their state legislators about their youth council's activities, and each attendee took part in a valuable networking session. This year the GYC will be planning and executing the second Youth Leadership Day, which will focus on developing youth passion and advocacy skills.

National Service and Volunteerism Day at the Legislature

The second National Service and Volunteerism Day at the Legislature was held on April 26, 2007 on the lawn of the Senate. Approximately 180 national service members representing 24 AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA, Senior Corps and Learn and Serve Programs educated legislators about their programs and participated in the day's activities. The goal of this event is to raise awareness about the impact of National Service and community volunteerism efforts across Arizona. In 2007, national service programs engaged over 10,000 Arizonans in service to community.

Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

The Sixth Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards Reception was held April 27, to honor 16 individuals and groups for their contributions to Arizona. Approximately 350 people attended the event, which featured video interviews of this year's awards recipients. The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards program is funded through corporate donations

from Starbucks Coffee, LandAmerica, SCF Arizona, APS and several others.



Arizona LeaderCorps Class of 2007

The Commission on Service and Volunteerism sponsors a high-level leadership training and development program for representative members of Arizona's AmeriCorps programs called Arizona LeaderCorps. This year's class of 16 AmeriCorps members participated in three retreats where they learned leadership, communication and event planning skills. The program provides the "cap stone" experience of planning and elivering the Governor's Annual Conference on National and Community Service.

AmeriCorps Week

For the first time nationally, AmeriCorps Week was organized during the week of May 11, to help acknowledge and celebrate the contribution of AmeriCorps to America. In Arizona, the Governor recognized AmeriCorps Week through a proclamation, AmeriCorps members gave talks in public school classrooms about AmeriCorps opportunities and the Commission helped to sponsor a statewide reception that was attended by approximately 40 members representing five AmeriCorps programs. On Wednesday May 23, 2007, an AmeriCorps night at an Arizona Diamondback game was held that was attended by 300-400 AmeriCorps members, family and friends, generating support for this valuable program.

Governor's 13th Annual Conference on National and Community Service

The Governor's 13th Annual National and Community Service Conference was held July 25 to 27, 2007 at the DuBois Center in Flagstaff. Approximately 380 attended and represented Arizona's AmeriCorps*State and National Directs, Tribal, AmeriCorps*VISTA and Senior Corps programs. The Conference unofficially represented the largest gathering of national service members in Arizona, and demonstrated a 13 percent increase in participation from the previous year. Participants had poprtunities to network, participate in workshop sessions and to contribute approximately 1,330 hours of volunteer service to sixteen community organizations in Flagstaff. Corporate sponsors for the event included Basha's, Comcast and Hart Across America.

Reports

The Five Keys to Youth Success

Unlocking the Door to Arizona's Future (Five Keys): This report was released on September 10, 2007 at a meeting of the Governor's Foundation Roundtable. This framework illustrates what is needed to achieve successful youth development, identifies current obstacles and provides strategies for implementation. The Five Keys highlight the importance of out-of-school influences such as relationships, environment, activities and opportunities. The Five Keys has been distributed to youth serving organizations, education professionals, foundations, businesses and other organizations across the State of Arizona. In response to the release of the report, the Task Force will now be focusing on implementing the recommendations within the framework.





Eva Lester, Director

The Division for School Readiness (DSR) works to develop a coordinated, efficient and cost effective delivery system for early childhood education to ensure that all children in Arizona start 1st grade safe, healthy, and ready to succeed.

The Division for School Readiness advises and makes recommendations to the Governor, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the Legislature on the most effective policy direction and methods to improve the coordination, quality and delivery of early care and educational services.

2007 was a year of transition for the School Readiness Board. During the spring of 2007, School Readiness Board members, staff and other resources were transitioned from the Governor's Office to the Early Childhood Development and Health Board, the new entity created with the passage of Proposition 203 (First Things First for Arizona's Children) in November 2006.

The Governor's Office hosted a joint meeting of the School Readiness Board and the Early Childhood Development and Health Board, which served as the final meeting of the School Readiness Board and marked the transition of efforts from the School Readiness Board to First Things First, an initiative with sustainable funding and statutory authority. The priorities of First Things First align with the School Readiness Action Plan, and one of the first actions of the Governor-appointed Early Childhood Development and Health Board was to adopt the School Readiness Action Plan as a framework for action and to convene workgroups on health, professional development and quality to pick up where the School Readiness Board workgroups left off.

With this transition, the GOCYF division formerly known as the School Readiness Board was renamed the Division for School Readiness. Division staff now manages the State Head Start Collaboration Office, is involved with multiple special projects and public/private partnerships, and provides a link between the Early Childhood Development and Health Board and the Governor's Office.

Grants

CHASE Early Education Emergent Leader Program

The CHASE Early Education Emergent Leader Program is a strategy of Governor Napolitano's School Readiness Action Plan to improve the education and retention of early education professionals. Program participants develop leadership skills through discussions with national, state and local leaders, and one-on-one mentoring. This program is a public/private partnership between the Governor's Division for School Readiness, the Southwest Human Development Training Department, with funding from CHASE, a JPMorgan Company, and the Arizona Early Education Funds. Twenty-two participants graduated from the program in 2007.

In June the Division for School Readiness hosted a celebration for 22 new graduates of the 2006-2007 class of Chase Early Education Emergent Leaders. The Chase Emergent Leaders Program is a successful professional development program which helps early childhood practitioners enhance management and leadership skills, increases their opportunities for engaging in leadership and professional development opportunities, and provides a forum for collaboration and networking.

Head Start Collaboration Grants

Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. The Division for School Readiness administers a grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services to establish linkages among Head Start, childcare, social welfare, health and state funded preschool programs. In 2007 over \$96,000 was distributed to agencies statewide to support programs that align with the goals of Head Start.

Initiatives

National Governor's Association School Readiness Regional Partnership Summit

In 2006 Arizona was one of seven states awarded a grant from the National Governors Association to fund a state summit to raise awareness and support for a comprehensive school readiness policy agenda for children birth to age five. This event took place in January 2007. The Division took this opportunity to bring together the regional partnerships from across the state funded by the Arizona Early Education Funds for a day of collaboration and sharing of best practices, as well as introducing them to the newly appointed members of the Early Childhood Development and Health Board, created through the passage of Proposition 203, "First Things First." This network of regional partnerships will lay the groundwork for the statewide infrastructure for early childhood as envisioned by First Things First.



Kim O'Connor, Director

The Division for Substance Abuse Policy works to improve and expand the delivery of substance abuse education, prevention and treatment services throughout the state by working with multiple state agencies and organizations.

Boards

Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention (Parents Commission)

The Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention is comprised of nine members, appointed by the Governor. Along with parents in Arizona's rural and urban communities, Parents Commission membership represents the fields of substance abuse prevention, treatment, and enforcement. The Parents Commission funds programs and initiatives that increase awareness of the serious risks and public health problems associated with substance abuse, as well as programs and initiatives that increase and enhance parental involvement in children's lives.

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP)

The Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership was established by Executive Order 2007-12 on June 13, 2007, in response to a recommendation put forth by the Governor's Methamphetamine Task Force in the Plan For Action: Addressing the Methamphetamine Crisis in Arizona. ASAP continues to function as the advisory council in an effort to maximize health and safety outcomes for all Arizonans through the elimination of substance abuse. This body, chaired by Governor Napolitano's Chief of Staff, met for the first time in August and will continue to act as the clearinghouse for all substance abuse-related budgetary and policy recommendations or requests.

Methamphetamine Task Force

This task force works to determine how resources in state and local government can be allocated, coordinated and integrated to enhance prevention efforts, treatment services and law enforcement activities related to the reduction of methamphetamine use, production and distribution in Arizona. In May of 2007, The Governor's Methamphetamine Task Force released a comprehensive statewide strategy to address methamphetamine. A Plan for Action: Addressing the Methamphetamine Crisis in Arizona, delivered specific policy recommendations in areas of prevention, treatment, law enforcement, healthcare, environmental cleanup and the workplace. In response to a recommendation put forth by the Task Force to form a State council to deal with Substance abuse issues, the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership was created in June.

Arizona's Underage Drinking Prevention Committee

This committee is dedicated to collaborating across state systems to prevent and reduce underage drinking. The committee has worked to address the problem of underage drinking by assessing statewide epidemiological data, resources, strategies and policies, and by building relationships with tribes, youth, law enforcement, government agencies and community coalitions. Partners on the committee include representatives from government and advocacy agencies that directly influence underage drinking. As a culmination of their ongoing efforts, in October 2007 Governor Napolitano joined the Committee to officially launch Draw the Line, a statewide social norms marketing campaign to address underage drinking.

Grants

Access to Recovery Grant (ATR)

The ATR was awarded to GOCYF by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in October, 2007. A total of \$8.3M will be utilized over three years to establish a voucher-based treatment system for methamphetamine-affected adult drug court participants. This grant was submitted collaboratively by the Governor's Office and the Administrative Office of the Courts. The following counties and tribes participate in the project: Maricopa, Pima, Yavapai, Coconino, Pinal, Navajo, Gila, and Cochise; the Ft McDowell Yavapai Apache Tribe will also participate.

Co-Occurring State Incentive Grant (CO-SIG)

Funding for CO-SIG is distributed to the Arizona Department of Corrections, the Arizona Department of Juvenile Correction, the Center for Applied Behavioral Health - ASU and LeCroy and Milligan. Funding is focused on providing assessment, treatment and recovery services for individuals with co-occurring disorders as well as the evaluation of program effectiveness. Aco-occurring disorder refers to an individual diagnosed with both a mental health and substance use disorder.

Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG)\$2.35 million

This grant supports 11 community-based coalitions that mirror state-level substance abuse assessment, planning and implementation activities. The coalitions have coordinated their planning efforts with the state underage drinking and anti-methamphetamine initiatives. At the end of the grant term, local communities will have successfully built capacity to better coordinate prevention services in partnership with state agencies.

Tribal Community Capacity Project to Prevent Underage Drinking and other Illicit Drugs

Funding for this grant project was provided by the federal Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG). The purpose is to support the development and/or expansion of community coalitions within tribal lands or serving urban American Indian and Alaskan Native populations, to develop or improve infrastructure to address issues of underage drinking and illicit drugs. Funding was awarded to two tribes and one urban tribal organization: San Carlos Apache Tribe-\$20,443, Navajo Nation-\$177,065 and Phoenix Indian Center-\$100,000.

Parent Commission Grants

The Parents Commission allocated \$4,025,000 in 2007 to programs and initiatives including:

Underage Drinking Initiative: \$1.1M

In 2007, the Parents Commission funded the Protecting You/Protecting Me program on tribal lands. Through this program, peer educators presented to over 150 students about the dangers of underage drinking. In addition, Parents Commission funding was used to launch Draw the Line, a statewide underage drinking prevention campaign brought about by Governor Napolitano and the Arizona Underage Drinking Prevention Committee.

Anti-Meth Initiative: \$600.000

Arizona has taken a proactive approach to mobilizing county, tribal and state efforts through the Arizona Anti-Methamphetamine Initiative. The Parents Commission provided funding to 17 community coalitions in Arizona to support the implementation of community-specific plans to address methamphetamine. The coalitions have completed assessments of the impact of the methamphetamine problem on their individual communities and in 2007 began implementing plans to address the problems within their communities.

Parent's Commission Grants cont.

Arizona Bullying Prevention Project: \$225,000

The Parents Commission has provided \$225,000 of continued support to the Arizona Bullying Prevention Project administered by the Arizona Prevention Resource Center (APRC). The overall goal of the project is to increase safety in schools through the reduction and ultimate prevention of behaviors such as bullying, substance abuse, truancy and absenteeism. The Project has promoted the researched-based Olweus Bullying Prevention Program to a total of 131 schools throughout the state; over 90,000 students received anti-bullying services in 2007.

School-Based Parenting Program: \$400,000

The Parents Commission supports school-based parenting programs, which have been shown to improve parenting skills, family communication and conflict resolution. Awarded school districts are provided trainings specific to their selected program(s) and personalized technical assistance and evaluation.

Families of Incarcerated Youth Initiative: \$360,000 for 2006-2007 -

In 2006, the Parents Commission awarded the Arizona Department of Juvenile Justice (ADJC) \$360,000 for the third year of the Families of Incarcerated Youth Initiative. In 2007, ADJC has continued to use year-three funding to proactively involve families of incarcerated youth in all aspects of treatment and education.

Healthy Families Arizona Program: \$700,000

Throughout 2007 the Parents Commission supported the Department of Economic Security-administered Healthy Families Arizona Program. This effort is designed to prevent child abuse and neglect and to promote child development and wellness. Healthy Families Arizona served a total of 5,869 families in fiscal year 2007. The Parents Commission funds supported nearly 17 percent of the prenatal component of the program.

Justice Involved Youth with Children Initiative: \$500,000

The funding of this initiative supports three adjudicated youth sites impacting approximately 350 youth receiving reproductive health and substance abuse education, along with professional development training. Additional programs have expanded to include aftercare and prevention services.

Annual Arizona Drug Court Conference: \$15,000

The 7th Annual Arizona Drug Court Conference was held on Thursday, August 23, 2007. Over 400 participants attended the conference that highlighted innovative and effective practices in drug courts, which have been proven to help break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction, and crime.

Children of Incarcerated Parents Initiative: \$125,000

The Parents Commission funds projects focusing on the unique challenges facing children of incarcerated parents, who are six times more likely to be incarcerated themselves later in life.

Reports

2007 Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile

This report provides a clear depiction of the impact of substance abuse on our state and its populace. In addition, it discusses efforts already underway to ensure data-driven decisions and solutions. The findings in this report can be used to guide decisions about the allocation of resources, including the funding of prevention, treatment and enforcement efforts, and should be utilized to inform the public about the prevalence of substance use and its associated consequences.

The Impact of Substance Abuse: A Snapshot of Arizona:

This document, a snapshot of the larger Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile, draws out the most salient and timely findings. This snapshot centers on Arizona's most pressing substance abuse-related issues, which can be broadly divided into three categories: alcohol, methamphetamine, and emerging issues.

Underage Drinking in Arizona Data Findings 2007

The goal of this report was to present findings and recommendations from a meta-analysis of underage drinking data and focus groups. This report helped to provide an overview of an analysis of Arizona's data on underage drinking to provide a baseline of information for the statewide media campaign (Draw the Line).

A Plan for Action: Addressing the Methamphetamine Crisis in Arizona

This report is the result of Governor Napolitano's call to action to the Methamphetamine Task Force to develop a comprehensive strategic action plan to tackle the state's growing methamphetamine problem. The Plan outlines a comprehensive state action plan for combating methamphetamine use in Arizona and provides a blueprint for implementing evidence-based strategies; it represents the Task Force's vision for creating a meth-free state.

Initiatives

Arizona's Statewide Substance Abuse Conference

This 2007 conference, Partnerships to Prevent Underage Drinking through Policy, Education, & Enforcement, was held on May 1-2, 2007. More than 400 people attended, representing communities from across the state. One of the outcomes of the conference was that over 50 community members, tribes and the 11 SPF-SIG coalitions received training and technical assistance to implement their community plans to address underage drinking. A total of 30 coalition members turned in these completed plans at the conference.

Substance Abuse Coalition Forum

The coalition forum brought together all of the substance abuse-related coalitions from across the state on September 18-19, 2007. Approximately 100 people attended this event from the 36 invited coalitions that receive funding through the Anti-Methamphetamine Initiative, Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) and Tribal Capacity Project. This event impacts Arizona families and citizens in the 15 counties and eight tribes that comprise the coalitions.



Draw the Line Underage Drinking Prevention Campaign

In October 2007 Governor Napolitano and the Arizona Underage Drinking Prevention Committee launched Draw the Line, a statewide social norms marketing campaign to address

underage drinking across the state. The campaign seeks to give parents and adults the knowledge and tools they need in order to better influence their children's decisions about underage drinking. Campaign goals aim to raise awareness, change attitudes and alter behavior regarding youth alcohol consumption and alcohol availability in Arizona, emphasizing that underage drinking is not a rite of passage. Over 28 state agencies and 11 coalitions are supporting this campaign.

Children of Incarcerated Parents Conference

To help stop the intergenerational cycle of crime and incarceration, the Division coordinates with the Arizona Department of Corrections and the Parents Commission to support children of incarcerated parents and build parenting skills for incarcerated adults who will be returning to their children after release. In 2007, the Governor's Office and the Parents Commission hosted the fourth statewide conference on Children of Incarcerated Parents, which focused on unique issues facing this population and what multidisciplinary stakeholders can do to help them. The conference was held in October, had approximately 250 attendees and included further discussion of how stakeholders can help ease the number of issues affecting this unique population.

During the 2007 holiday season, Governor Napolitano declared the month of December Hope for the Holidays month in support of increased awareness of the special needs of children of incarcerated parents. The theme of the program was Hope for the Holidays – Giving Thanks and Giving Back. This effort involved a toy donation drive for children of incarcerated parents. Nearly 650 children were served by this drive which included donated toys from the Governor's Office, the Department of Economic Security, The Department of Corrections and Big Brother Big Sisters of Arizona.

Annual Arizona Drug Court Conference

The seventh Annual Arizona Drug Court Conference was held on August 23, 2007 with over 400 participants. The conference highlighted innovative and effective practices in drug courts, as the mission of drug courts is to stop the abuse of alcohol and other drugs and related criminal activity by offenders. Drug courts handle cases involving drug-addicted offenders through an extensive supervision and treatment program. In exchange for successful completion of the program, the court may dismiss the original charge, reduce or set aside a sentence, offer some lesser penalty, or offer a combination of these.

Arizona Methamphetamine Summit

This summit, held January 10-11, 2007 attracted over 400 participants in the interest of tasking community and state representatives with identifying and prioritizing populations, barriers and solutions to address methamphetamine. This meeting resulted in the development of a comprehensive list of recommendations for reducing the impact of methamphetamine use and distribution in Arizona, and the identification of 10 priority recommendations for future action by the Arizona Methamphetamine Task Force.



Maria-Elena Ochoa, Director

The Division for Women is committed to ensuring that all women in Arizona live productive, healthy lives, free from violence, with access to health care and an adequate means of self-sufficiency. The Division administers grants, provides training and information, and guides public policy on issues critical to women.

Boards

Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women

This commission is tasked with developing legislative and policy recommendations to address violence against women, as well as expanding successful prevention initiatives and coordinating and expanding services for victims of domestic and sexual violence. In order to decrease domestic and sexual violence in Arizona, the Commission provided oversight of and support for the implementation of the recommendations in the 2004 Domestic and Sexual Violence State Plan. As of July 2007, 81 percent of all 57 recommendations have been either completed or have had significant progress to date.

In October, the Honorable Peggy Bilsten resigned her post as Chair of the commission and in December, First Lady Vikki Shirley of the Navajo Nation accepted the position of Chair for the Commission.

Governor's Commission on the Health Status of Women and Families

This body is responsible for looking at issues critical to women's health and for improving the overall health of women. In November 2007, an ISA was negotiated between the Department of Health Services (DHS) and GOCYF, transferring the staffing of the commission over to GOCYF from DHS effective January 2008.

Earned Income Tax Credit Task Force (EITC)

This task force is comprised of representatives from the business and non-profit communities, the IRS and the Arizona Department of Revenue, and provides statewide leadership to promote and implement the earned income tax credit, a refundable tax credit for low-income workers. Representatives from approximately 45 community agencies and businesses as well as state, county and city governments work with the statewide group to assist low and moderate income working families become self sufficient. The Task Force also works to promote the use of Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites where tax preparation services are available at no cost.

Since the EITC Task Force was formed in 2003, there has been nearly a 200 percent increase in the number of low and moderate income citizens who have their tax returns prepared free at VITA sites. In addition, there has been a 81 percent increase in the total EITC refund amount to Arizona taxpayers. Overall, over the past four years there has been a 51 percent increase in the average EITC refund amount. In regards to VITA sites, the number of tax returns prepared at these sites over the past four years has increased by 66 percent.

Grants

STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant

These funds provide systematic and sustained focus on permanent systems change within our criminal justice system, while simultaneously developing a comprehensive network of domestic violence and sexual assault victim service advocates and programs throughout Arizona communities. In 2007, the STOP grant funded 26 programs statewide totaling \$1,905,172. The Division distributed financial support into four sections: Courts: \$190,321; Law Enforcement: \$455,667; Prosecution: \$307,502; and Victim Services: \$951,682.

Rural Domestic Violence & Child Victimization Grant

This grant provides \$450,000 to the Southern Arizona Battered Immigrant Women Project. The goal is to increase the safety of battered immigrant women and their children while improving their ability to access culturally appropriate services within their communities in Yuma, Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, Pima, Pinal and Santa Cruz counties. In 2007, 46 training sessions on domestic violence and child victimization were given to nearly 500 multi-disciplinary professionals to help coordinate the treatment, counseling, and assistance opportunities available to immigrant victims of domestic violence. In addition, 6,950 individuals were provided with information at educational community events in several counties.

Innovative Domestic Violence Prevention Grant

The Innovative Domestic Violence Prevention Grant supports proven strategies and creative ideas for the prevention of family violence, with a specific focus on children. In 2007, \$465,000 was awarded to programs, organizations and shelters that provided direct services to families, and also provided training and collaborative opportunities to providers statewide. Recipients include: Pima Prevention Partnership, Maricopa Association of Governments, Time Out Shelter, Inc., Prevent Child Abuse Arizona, Inc., Phoenix Rescue Mission, Brewster Center Domestic Violence Services, and the Blake Foundation.

Women's Workforce Development Grant

To improve the standard of living for women experiencing barriers to self-sufficiency, the Division received Workforce Investment Act – Women's Workforce Development Program Funds in the amount of \$859,142 to utilize from January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007. This grant funds agencies that assist women with employment by enhancing employment skills and securing jobs. Over the 30-month period, this grant funded four sub-grantees: Arizona Women's Education & Employment, Inc. in Phoenix, the Beacon Group, Inc. (Tetra Services) in Phoenix, Direct CareGiver Association in Tucson and the Page Regional Domestic Violence Services in Page. Overall, percentages for the four grantees resulted in 80 percent of clients improving job skills, 60 percent of clients obtaining employment and 53 percent of clients retained employment for six months.

Reports

System Alert: Arizona's Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence

Released in October 2007, System Alert examines the impact of domestic violence through the views and opinions of front-line practitioners in Arizona's criminal-justice system and the victims who have sought its aid. GOCYF provided funding for this report Researchers with the Morrison Institute for Public Policy conducted more than 800 confidential surveys and 71 in-depth interviews of prosecutors, judges, probation officers, victim advocates, and victims throughout Arizona. System Alert completes an examination of DV attitudes and outcomes.

Arizona State Plan on Domestic and Sexual Violence

The State Plan on Domestic and Sexual Violence was published by the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women in 2004. As of July 2007, 81 percent of the 57 recommendations in the State Plan have been either completed or have had significant progress since publication.

Initiatives

Women's Health Week

Women's Health Week, held each May, is a national effort to raise awareness about manageable steps women can take to improve their health. The focus is on the importance of incorporating simple preventive and positive health behaviors into everyday life, and to encourage awareness about key health issues among women. The Division for Women participated on the planning committee for this event in collaboration with the Department of Health Services. Approximately 50 events were held statewide to promote the week, including health screenings and speakers, and at the Capitol, over 300 state employees participated in the Women's Health Week State Employee Expo.

Walk to End Domestic Violence

This annual 5K Run/Walk is hosted by the Arizona Foundation for Women and raises funds to support domestic violence shelters and programs across Maricopa County. The Governor serves as the honorary chair and state employees walked together each year on Team Governor. In 2007, the walk generated \$300,000 to benefit shelters.

Race for the Cure

Walkers from several state agencies came together to form Team Governor at the 2007 walk, which raise funds for breast cancer research. This was the fifteenth year for the Phoenix Walk which is one of the largest events in Phoenix.



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